

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07  
NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 /043 W  
-----292300Z 023931 /75-70

R 291153Z MAR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5456  
INFO AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 2182

PASS AID/NE/ME

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: EAID, PFOR, IS  
SUBJECT: ISRAELI PRESS REPORTS ON ANERA CONTROVERSY

1. ON MARCH 29 HAARETZ PRINTED THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE BY  
YEHUDA LITANI:

2. BEGIN QUOTE. DISTRIBUTION OF SLANDEROUS PAMPHLET BY  
U.S. WELFARE ORGANIZATION STOPPED

REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ISRAELI FOREIGN MINISTRY IN JERUSALEM  
AND OF THE ISRAELI EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON HAVE RECENTLY  
COMPLAINED TO THE STATE DEPARTMENT ABOUT AN AMERICAN WEL-  
FARE ORGANIZATION OPERATING IN THE MIDDLE EAST (ANERA).

3. THE COMPLAINT -- IN WHICH INTER ALIA DEPUTY DIRECTOR  
GENERAL EPHRAIM EVRON WAS INVOLVED -- STATED THAT THE  
ORGANIZATION, ONE OF WHOSE PRINCIPAL SUBSIDISERS IS THE  
U.S. GOVERNMENT, HAS BEEN DISTRIBUTING AN ARABIC PAMPHLET  
IN THE ADMINISTERED TERRITORIES AND IN EAST JERUSALEM  
CONTAINING ANTI-ISRAELI PROPAGANDA. ANERA IS ACTIVE IN  
THE WEST BANK AND GHE GAZA STRIP IN WELFARE, FINANCIAL,  
AND MEDICAL AID PROGRAMS, AND HAS A BUDGET OF HUNDREDS  
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OF THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS ANUALLY. THE ARABIC PUBLICATION  
INCLUDED ANTI-ISRAEL EXPRESSIONS AND DESCRIPTIONS  
(FOR INSTANCE, THE 1948 WAS WAS CALLED A 'HOLOCAUST')  
WHERE AS IN ENGLISH VERSION THESE EXPRESSIONS WERE OMITTED.

4. AFTER THE FOREIGN MINISTRY HAD DRAWN THE ATTENTION  
OF THE U.S. GOVERNMENT TO THIS MATTER, THE STATE DEPARTMENT

CONTACTED ANERA AND IN JOINT CONSULTATION IT  
WAS DECIDED TO SHELVE THE ARABIC PAMPHLET.

5. THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NEAR EAST  
AFFAIRS, ALFRED ATHERTON, RECENTLY WROTE TO THE DEPUTY  
DIRECTOR GENERAL OF THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, EPHRAIM  
EVRON, THANKING HIM FOR THE WAY THE FOREIGN MINISTRY  
HAD HANDLED THIS ISSUE, AND NOTING THAT ANERA HAD  
STOPPED PRINTING THE ARABIC VERSION OF THIS PAMPHLET.  
IN A RECENT CHECK MADE AT THE ANERA OFFICES IN EAST  
JERUSALEM IT WAS CONFIRMED THAT GUIDELINES WERE INDEED  
GIVEN NOT TO DISTRIBUTE THE PAMPHLET IN ARABIC.  
END QUOTE.

6. ON THE SAME DATE, DAVAR ALSO PRINTED THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE:

7. BEGIN QUOTE. AMERICAN FUND OPERATING IN THE AREAS  
DISSEMINATING ANTI-ISRAEL MATERIAL

THE FOREIGN MINISTRY IN JERUSALEM HAS DRAWN THE ATTENTION  
OF SENIOR OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON REGARDING ANTI-ISRAEL  
MATERIAL DISSEMINATED BY AN AMERICAN FUND OPERATING IN  
THE ADMINISTERED AREAS.

8. IT CONCERNS A FUND CALLED ANERA WHICH LAST YEAR ALLOCATED  
ABOUT \$617,000 TO EDUCATIONAL, WELFARE, HEALTH,  
WOMEN'S AND OTHER SOCIAL INSTITUTIONS IN THE WEST BANK  
AND GAZA STRIP. A SUBSTANTIAL PART OF THE ANERA FUNDS IS  
DONATED BY OFFICIAL AMERICAN SOURCES INCLUDING THE USG.  
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ANERA PERSONNEL HAVE PUBLISHED PAMPHLETS IN ENGLISH AND  
ARABIC EXPLAINING THE ORGANIZATION'S OPERATIONS. A FEW  
ANTI-ISRAELI EXPRESSIONS WERE CONTAINED IN THE ARABIC  
PAMPHLETS AND THEREFORE ANERA PEOPLE WERE INSTRUCTED  
TO SHELVE THESE PAMPHLETS.

9. THE PAMPHLETS IN ENGLISH WERE WRITTEN IN A DIFFERENT  
VERSION CONTAINING DETAILS ON THE PALESTINIAN REFUGEES  
AND ON THE ASSISTANCE GIVEN TO THEM.

10. THE AMERICAN STATE DEPARTMENT SUBMITTED A REPLY  
TO JERUSALEM A FEW DAYS AGO CONCERNING ANERA, AND EXPRESSED  
THE HOPE THAT THE AFFAIR WOULD BE TERMINATED.  
ENG QUOTE.  
DUNNIGAN

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, PROPAGANDA, VOLUNTARY AGENCIES  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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